

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

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R 151247Z SEP 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 729

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

USIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

CINCUSAFE

USNMR SHAPE

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TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR

SUBJECT: RPP REACTIONS TO NATO SEC. GEN LUN'S STATEMENT

1. MAJOR FRONTPAGE TOPIC IN MONDAY, SEPT. 15 TURKISH PRESS WAS SHARP REACTION BY REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY CHAIRMAN BULENT ECEVIT TO STATEMENTS MADE BY NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE UNITED STATE. AS REPORTED IN THE TURKISH PRESS LUNS EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR THE EFFECT ON THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT IF THE EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED BEFORE THE PARIAL SENATE ELECTIONS.

2. SPEAKING AT A POLITICAL RALLY ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 14, RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT REPORTEDLY CRITICIZED LUNS FOR HIS ALLEGED UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMENTS AND SAID: "THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO SHOULD KNOW

THAT THERE IS DEMOCRACY IN TURKEY. AND THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION ARE DETERMINED ONLY BY THE TURKISH NATION, NOT BY THE NATO HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS OR THE AMERICAN CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON. IT SEEMS THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS TAKEN A PART IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN OF THE GOVERNMENT.... HE IS OPENLY SAYING THAT DEMIREL SHOULD BE SUPPORTED IN THE OCTOBER 12 ELECTIONS BY THE AMERICANS. THE ALLIES OF TURKEY SHOULD DISPLAY THEIR FRIENDSHIP TO TURKEY NOT BY SUPPORTING THE POLITICIANS WHO SERVE THEIR INTERESTS BUT BY SUPPORTING TURKEY".

3. BOTH THE MASS CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN AND MODERATE LEFT CUMHURİYET IN SATURDAY, SEPT 13 EDITIONS CARRIED THE REMARKS OF FORMER DEFMIN HASAN ISIK (RPP) ON LUNS STATEMENT. ISIK SAID THAT LUNS'S STATEMENT "CONSTITUTED INTERFERENCE IN TURKEY'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS....SUCH THINGS YIELD ADVERSE RESULTS." HE WENT ON: "MOST PROBABLY LUNS, REALIZING THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY WAS NOT EMBRACE BY THE PEOPLE, WAS TRYING TO GIVE IT A LIFT FROM OUTSIDE."

4. WRITING ON THE SAME SUBJECT IN THE SUNDAY, SEPT. 14 EDITION OF MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET CUNEYT ARCA YUREK WROTE: "FIRST WE MUST TELL LUNS THIS: ANY INFLUENTIAL POLITICAL PARTY IN TURKEY IS PRO-ESTERN, THE RPP IN THE LEAD. THERE ARE DIFFERENCES IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE WEST.... LUNS MUST ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT EMBARGO OR NO EMBARGO, THE POST ELECTION STANDING OF THE NATIONALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE AFFECTED. THE FUTURE OF THIS GOVERNMENT RESTS SOLELY WITH THE WILL OF THE TURKISH GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.... EMBARGO OR NO EMBARGO, TURKEY WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE PATH WHICH SHE CONSIDERS BEST AND WILL REARRANGE HER EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL POLICIES..."

5. IN A BRUSSELS DATELINED STORY IN THE LIBERAL REFORMIST MILLİYET, MEHMET ALI BIRAND REPORTED ON NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS PRESS CONFERENCE ON FRIDAY IN BRUSSELS. BIRAND REPORTED THAT LUNS ATTEMPTED TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT REGARDING HIS REMARKS IN THE U.S., SAYING: "NATO NEVER INTERFERES IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF ITS MEMBERS.... DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE UNITED STATES, I TRIED TO UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPLAIN THE DIFFICULTIES TO BE FACED BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT IN THE EVENT OF A NON-LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO... BEFORE THE OCTOBER 12 ELECTIONS. NEITHER THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT OR ITS SUCCESSORS WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE AS LONG AS THE EMBARGO IS CONTINUED....
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